

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 176511
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:DONEWBERRY:LLC
APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB
NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.
S/S-O: A. OTTO
S:WHTWADDELL

-----105145 280100Z /73

O 280015Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176511

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF IS

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S JULY 25 MEETING WITH ARAB AMBASSADORS
AND CHARGES

1. AT SECRETARY'S INITIATIVE,EGYPTIAN,LEBANESE AND SYRIAN
AMBASSADORS, AND SAUDI AND JORDANIAN CHARGES MET WITH
SECRETARY JULY 25 TO DISCUSS BEGIN VISIT AND SECRETARY'S
FORTHCOMING TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST. HABIB AND ATHERTON
PARTICIPATED.

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2. SECRETARY CONFIRMED THAT BEGIN HAD NOT REQUESTED USG
TO SUPPORT HIS PROCEDURAL PROPOSAL OR SUBSTANTIVE VIEWS AND
THAT WE HAD NOT DONE SO. WE HAVE OUR OWN SUGGESTIONS THAT
SECRETARY WOULD BE MAKING TO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DURING HIS
FORTHCOMING TRIP BUT SECRETARY DID NOT WANT TO BE SPECIFIC
ABOUT OUR SUGGESTIONS UNTIL HE VISITS CAPITALS.

3. ARAB REPS ASSERTED THAT ADMINISTRATION'S SELF-IMPOSED RESTRAINT ON PUBLIC COMMENT HAD LEFT PUBLIC IMPRESSION THAT BEGIN HAD CARRIED THE DAY. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW U.S. ARMS SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL HAD REINFORCED IMPRESSION THAT BEGIN WAS BEING REWARDED FOR HIS NEGATIVE ATTITUDE ON GENEVA. SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT ARMS SUPPLY WAS PART OF ONGOING

PROGRAM CONSISTENT WITH OUR COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL'S NEEDS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO SYRIAN AMBASSADOR'S COMPLAINT ABOUT ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW JEWISH SETTLEMENTS PLANNED FOR GOLAN, SECRETARY SAID PRESIDENT HAD MADE CLEAR TO BEGIN HOW STRONGLY WE FEEL ON SETTLEMENTS ISSUE AND EXPRESSED HOPE BEGIN WOULD REFLECT ON WHAT PRESIDENT HAD SAID.

5. IN RESPONSE TO ARAB REPS ANXIETY LEST IMPRESSION BE LEFT THAT BEGIN PROPOSALS ACCEPTED BY USG, SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD TRY TO CLARIFY MATTER AT PRESS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR JULY 29. ARAB REPS TACITLY ACCEPTED SECRETARY'S JUDGMENT THAT, UNTIL HE VISITS AREA, LESS SAID BY PARTIES IN PUBLIC THE BETTER. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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